

SESSION #2

AIR FORCE MODELING & SIMULATION PEOPLE

ISSUE

Despite the value of Modeling & Simulation (M&S) expertise, there is no M&S career field or associated training.

BACKGROUND

- M&S is a key technical area that can significantly reduce acquisition cost and schedule
- Many acquisition career fields need M&S expertise, but M&S experts are typically analysts
- Acquisition M&S personnel skill and training requirements have not been defined
- Current acquisition courses in the Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering (SPRDE), Test and Evaluation (TE), and Software Acquisition Management (SAM) areas cover the basic M&S definitions, but there is no in-depth M&S training available

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DISCUSSION

- Engineers and scientists may compete for analyst positions, but not vice versa
- M&S analysts contribute in all acquisition phases but can not be acquisition certified or hold critical acquisition positions
- No new training courses for M&S will likely be developed unless made mandatory for some career field, AFSC, or acquisition certificationThe 4Star M&S Summit established four related initiatives
- The 4Star M&S Summit established four related initiatives, aimed at analysts
 - Increase the level of M&S expertise
 - Establish short courses
 - Adjust AFIT programs
 - Institute consistent use of special identifiers to track M&S expertise
 - Expand Career Field Sustainment Study to emphasize M&S-related career fields
 - Increase number of M&S specialists in MAJCOMs

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Create a separate M&S career field, establish acquisition certification criteria, and develop necessary training